

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present paper, claims 12 and 24 will have been amended for clerical purposes and to render the terminology thereof consistent throughout the claims, with claims 1-24 pending before the Examiner. Specifically, claim 12, line 2, and claim 24, line 1 have been amended to depend from claim 9 and claim 22, respectively. Applicant notes that such an amendment is appropriate, since it merely renders the terminology consistent throughout the claims. Thus, the present amendment does not continue prosecution of the application but merely corrects clerical claim dependency errors to claims 12 and 24. Further, the present amendment does not involve a substantial amount of work as only two claims are involved. Thus, entry of the amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is submitted to be appropriate.

Applicant respectfully submits that the entry of the above amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 since it does not require an additional search or examination, since it is made merely for clerical purposes, and since no new matter is contained therein. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to exercise his discretion and approve the present amendment for entry under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

Applicant thus notes that this amendment to the claims is to be considered merely a clarifying amendment that is cosmetic in nature, and is not intended to narrow the scope of the claims. Accordingly, this amendment should not be considered a decision by Applicant to narrow the claims in any way.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Amendment or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,
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